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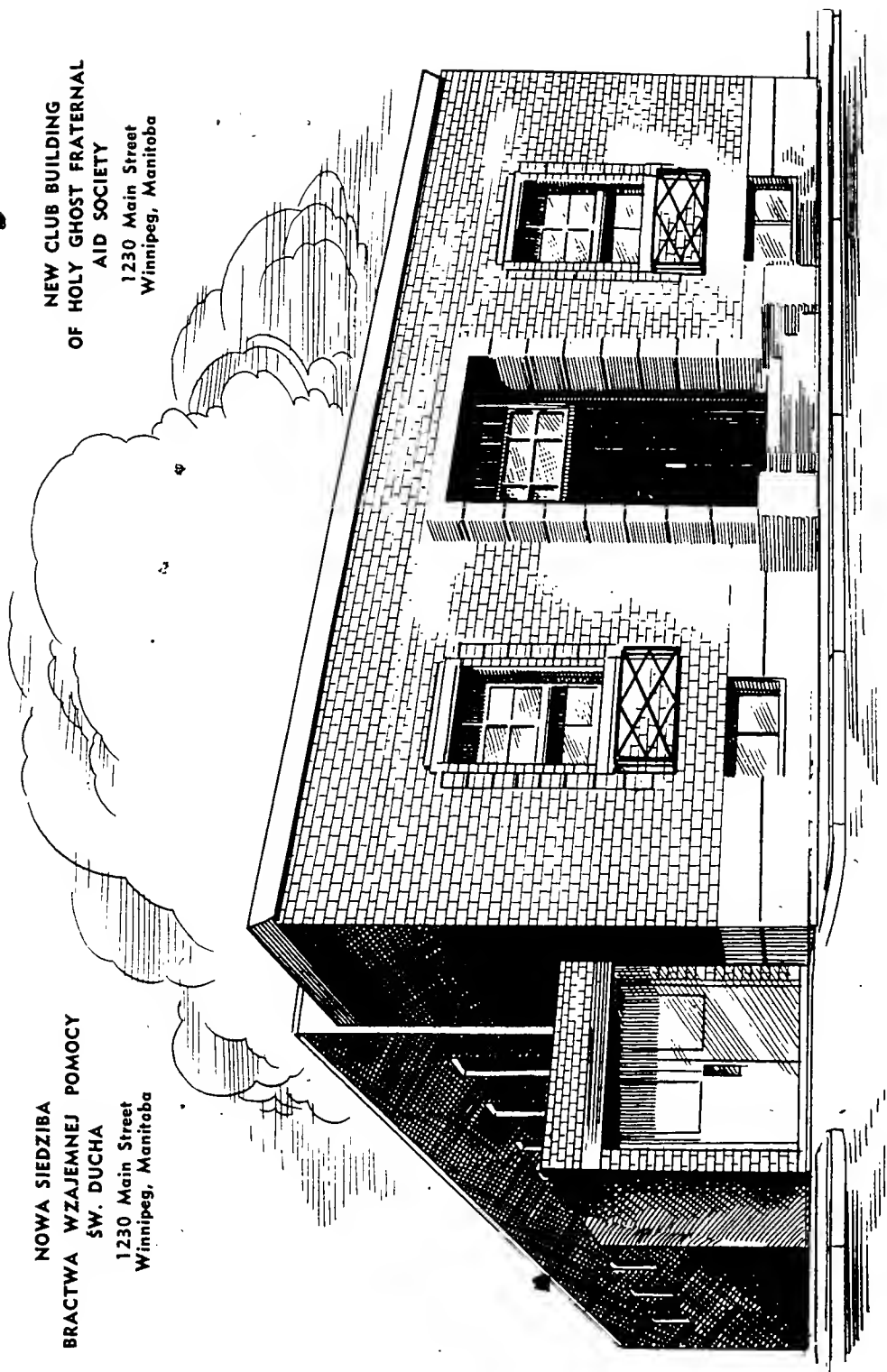
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A FEW FACTS ABOUT . . .

The Holy Ghost Fraternal Aid Society

With the completion of its new club building, the Holy Ghost Fraternal Aid Society adds a notable achievement to the work in which it has been engaged since its inception 47 years ago. Its origin was in 1902, when in the small but energetic Polish community, which then centered its activities in the Holy Ghost Parish, Winnipeg, the need was felt to create and foster amongst its members, a spirit of closer unanimity of action and thought for the protection of their mutual interests and social advancement in the land of their choice — Canada.

Accordingly, and through the initiative of Rev. J. W. Kulawy, O.M.I., a meeting of parishioners was called May 18th, 1902, and plans were formed for the founding of an organization. It was decided that the ideal could only be realized through the medium of a fraternal institution. At this meeting 23 men enrolled as members, with Rev. Father Kulawy being elected as the Society's first President.

The Society's complete institution occurred December 5th, 1906, when it was incorporated under the provisions of "The Charitable Association Act" of the Province of Manitoba.

In the following years we find the growth of the Society retarded, due to the devastating and far reaching economic and social conditions of the pre-war period followed by the Great War itself. However, through these trying years the Society's natural strength remained unabated, its vigor unimpaired and we find it ready to resume its activities with renewed energy.

Finding, through experience, that no organization is sufficiently capable of handling all its social and charitable undertakings without the aid of ladies, the Society extended its membership, in 1921, to embrace the ladies of the Parish.

In the forty-seven years of its existence the Society has exercised a mighty force of good in easing the burden of those, who through misfortune, sickness or loss of their loved

ones, have found themselves in need of a helping hand. This duty is considered one of the most sacred trusts of the Society. In the past 30 years the sum of \$35,000.00 has been paid out in sickness, funeral and death benefits. Further donations for charitable and patriotic appeals amount to the sum of \$10,000.00.

The Society enjoys the distinction of being the first Polish fraternal organization in Western Canada and it takes special pride in the knowledge that it has served as a model for other similar organizations.

With the end of World War II, and prompted by the influx of veterans of the Polish Army, as well as large numbers of Displaced Persons from Europe, the Society realized the need of providing adequate quarters where these newcomers could be given the opportunity of acquainting themselves with their new surroundings and to assist them in becoming Canadian citizens.

To this end, at the Annual General meeting, held December 12th, 1947, the members decided to undertake the construction of suitable quarters. A choice plot of land, on Main Street, facing historic St. John's Park, was purchased shortly after from the city of Winnipeg, and construction was started August 20, 1948.

The club building, now completed, represents half of the complete project and contains the administrative office, library and reading room, and club room on the first floor, with a spacious banquet hall in the basement with adjoining kitchen. It is hoped that within a year, work may be resumed and the whole project completed, by the addition of an auditorium and bowling alleys. The size of the present structure is forty by one hundred and twenty feet, while the completed structure will have a frontage of eighty feet.

The Executive Committee tenders its thanks to all members and persons who have, directly or indirectly, contributed to the construction of our new club building.



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Attorney General

Canada Province of Manitoba

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To all to whom these presents shall come—Greetings:—

WHEREAS Roman Dybeck, mason; Jacob Weselak, C.P.R. employee; John Wrzeczvicz, carpenter; John Vorlick, C.P.R. employee; B. Penkalski, C.P.R. employee; Stefan Dybeck, mason; Jacob Hrabi, C.P.R. employee; Frank Debyk, mason; Ferdenant Krogel, carpenter; and John Baderski, school inspector; have by their petition asked to be incorporated under the provisions of "The Charitable Associations Act", being Chapter 18 of the Revised Statutes of Manitoba, 1902, under the name of

"HOLY GHOST FRATERNAL AID SOCIETY"

for the purpose and with the object of,

- (a) That the Polish Roman Catholic people may be offered an opportunity to consolidate into a union of fraternal love and in order that charity might prevail in such fraternal union.
- (b) That the sick might be visited and mused and the dead buried, widows and orphans protected and also that true fraternal harmony, peace and sound morals might be promulgated for the welfare of both the body and soul alike, and also to give public entertainments or concerts and charge admission for the benefit of the Society;

AND WHEREAS the said applicants have complied with the provisions of the said Act, and it has been deemed expedient to incorporate them as requested;

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NOW KNOW YE that, by and with the advice and consent of our Executive Council, and under the authority of the above mentioned Act, and of any other power and authority whatsoever in us vested in that behalf, we do, by these our Letters Patent, constitute the said Roman Dybeck, Jacob Weselak, John Wrzeczwicz, John Vorlick, B. Penkalski, Stefan Dybeck, Jacob Hrab, Frank Debyk, Ferdinant Krogel, John Baderski, and all and every such other person or persons as now is, and are or shall at any time hereafter become members of the said Corporation, a body corporate and politic, with perpetual succession and a common seal by and under the name of

"HOLY GHOST FRATERNAL AID SOCIETY",

with all powers to have, take, acquire, hold, possess and enjoy to and for the uses and purposes of such Corporation any messuages, tenements or hereditaments of whatever nature or Kind whatsoever, as well as to hold, possess and enjoy any messuages that may have been heretofore acquired by or become vested in any such institution previously established or in any trustee or trustees for such institution and to sell, mortgage or otherwise dispose of the same of the same and to lease any buildings or part thereof or its lands that shall not be required for the actual use and occupation of the Institution from time to time;

AND WE FURTHER DIRECT that the yearly value of the real property so held shall not exceed the sum of Five thousand (5000) dollars.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we have caused these our letters to be made patent and the great seal of our Province of Manitoba to be hereunto affixed;

WITNESS our trusty and well beloved Sir Daniel Hunter McMillan, Knight Commander of our most distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province of Manitoba;

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, in our City of Winnipeg, in our said Province of Manitoba, this fifth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six, and in the sixth year of our reign.

By Command

(—) D. N. McFADDEN,

Provincial Secretary.

(Copy from Original of Society's Charter)

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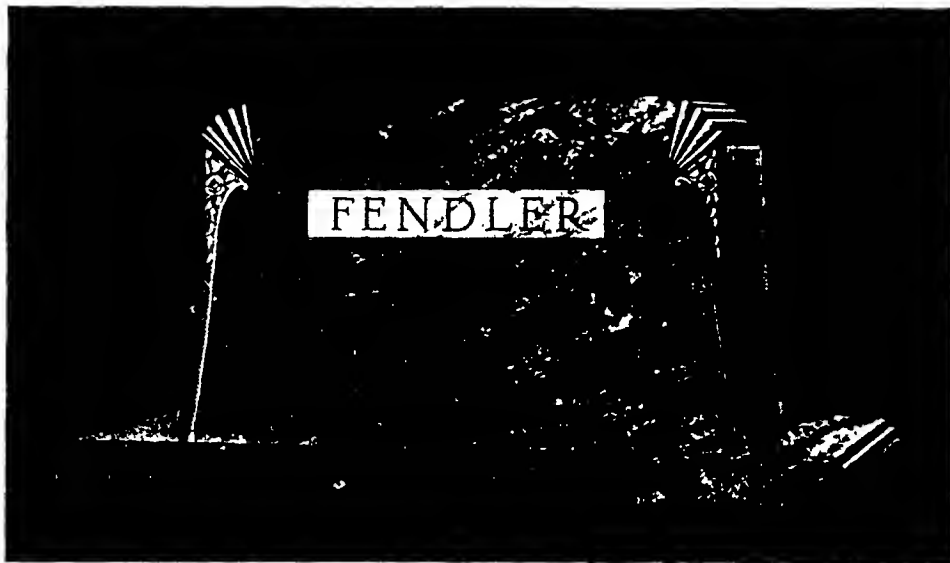
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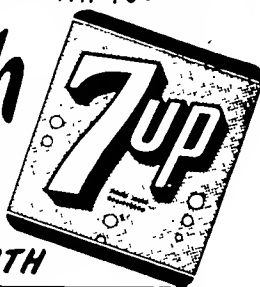
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